


ECTE333 – Tutorial 2

Serial Communication

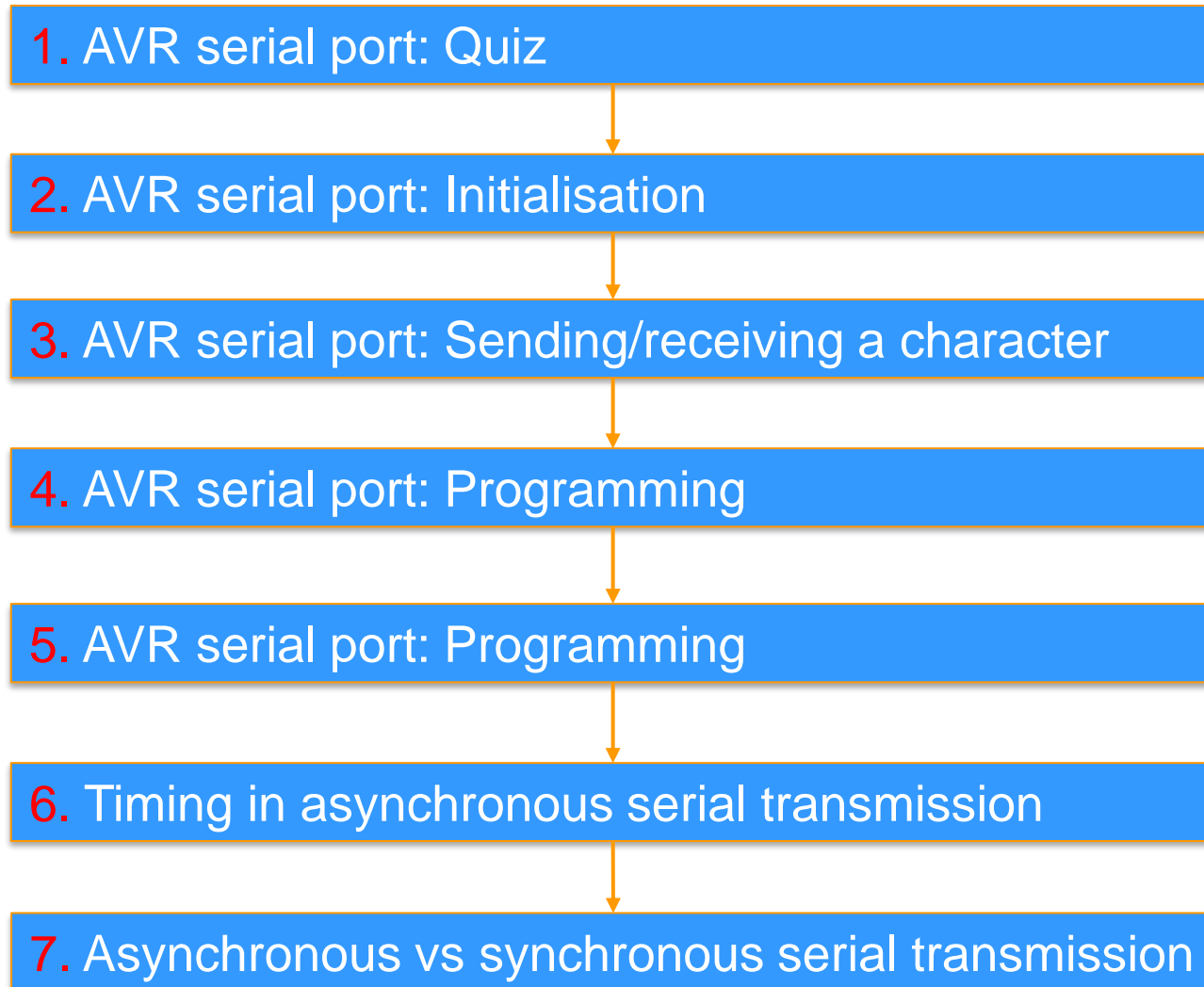
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ECTE333's schedule



Lecture (2h)	Tutorial (1h)	Lab (2h)
L1: Introduction to AVR Microcontrollers		
L2: C Programming, Digital IO	Tutorial 1	Lab 1
L3: Serial Communication		
	Tutorial 2	Lab 2
L4: Interrupts, Timers		
	Tutorial 3	Lab 3
L5: Pulse Width Modulators		
	Tutorial 4	Lab 4
L6: Analogue-to-Digital Converters		
	Tutorial 5	Lab 5
L7: Microcontroller Applications		
		Lab 6

Tutorial 2's overview



Tutorial 2's overview

For this tutorial, we use

Section 5 of Exam Appendix:

[ECTE333-Exam-Appendix.pdf](#)

(available on e-learning)

5. Serial Communication

Registers UBRRH & UBRRL

URSEL→	0	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
--------	---	----	----	----	----	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

$$\text{baud rate} = \frac{\text{system clock frequency (Hz)}}{16 \times (\text{UBRR} + 1)}$$

$$\text{UBRR} = \frac{\text{system clock frequency (Hz)}}{16 \times (\text{baud rate})} - 1$$

Register UCSRA

RXC	TXC	UDRE	FE	DOR	PE	U2X	MPCM
-----	-----	------	----	-----	----	-----	------

RXC: 1 when receive buffer has unread data (RX complete)

TXC: 1 when no new data in transmit buffer (TX complete)

UDRE: 1 when USART data register is empty

FE: 1 when there is a frame error

DOR: 1 when there is a data overrun error

PE: 1 when there is a parity error

U2X: 1 to double the transmission speed

MPCM: 1 to enable multi-processor com mode

Register UCSRB

RXCIE	TXCIE	UDRIE	RXEN	TXEN	UCSZ2	RXB8	TXB8
-------	-------	-------	------	------	-------	------	------

RXCIE: 1 to enable RX Complete Interrupt, valid only if Global Interrupt Flag = 1 and RXC = 1

TXCIE: 1 to enable TX Complete Interrupt, valid only if Global Interrupt Flag = 1 and TXC = 1

UDRIE: 1 to enable USART Data Register Empty Interrupt

RXEN: 1 to enable USART receiver: Pin D.0 = RXD pin

TXEN: 1 to enable USART transmitter: Pin D.1 = TXD pin

UCSZ2: bit UCSZ2 for selecting character size

RXB8: Rx extra data bit for 9-bit character size

TXB8: Tx extra data bit for 9-bit character size

Register UCSRC

URSEL	UMSEL	UPM1	UPM0	USBS	UCSZ1	UCSZ0	UCPOL
-------	-------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------

URSEL: Must be set to 1 to write to UCSRC. *Note:* UCSRC and UBRRH share the same location

UMSEL: To select USART modes: 0 asynchronous, 1 synchronous

UPM1, UPM0: To select parity mode: 00 no parity, 10 even parity, 11 odd parity

USBS: To select stop bit modes: 0→1 stop bit, 1→2 stop bit

UCSZ1, UCSZ0: Used with UCSZ2 to select character size

UCPOL: Clock polarity, used with synchronous

UCSZ2	UCSZ1	UCSZ0	Character Size
0	0	0	5-bit
0	0	1	6-bit
0	1	0	7-bit
0	1	1	8-bit
1	0	0	Reserved
1	0	1	Reserved
1	1	0	Reserved
1	1	1	9-bit

Q1 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Quiz

a) On what IO port do TXD and RXD pins reside?

- Port D: TXD = D.1 and
RXD = D.0.

(RXD) PD0	<input type="checkbox"/>	14
(TXD) PD1	<input type="checkbox"/>	15

b) What registers are used to set the baud rate?

- UBRRH and UBRRL.

$$UBRR = \frac{\text{system clock frequency (Hz)}}{16 \times (\text{baud rate})} - 1$$

c) How to select asynchronous transmission?

- Make flag UMSEL = 0 (register UCSRC).

URSEL	UMSEL	UPM1	UPM0	USBS	UCSZ1	UCSZ0	UCPOL
-------	-------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------

 UCSRC

d) How to specify the number of stop bits?

- Flag USBS of register UCSRC: 0 → 1 stop bit,
1 → 2 stop bits.

Q1 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Quiz

e) How to select parity bit options?

- Bits UPM1 and UPM0 of register UCSRC: 00 → none, 10 → even, 11 → odd.

URSEL	UMSEL	UPM1	UPM0	USBS	UCSZ1	UCSZ0	UCPOL
-------	-------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------

 UCSRC

f) How to double the transmission speed?

- Set bit U2X = 1 (register UCSRA).
- Then, **baud rate = clock/[8 ×(UBRR+1)]**.

RXC	TXC	UDRE	FE	DOR	PE	U2X	MPCM
-----	-----	------	----	-----	----	-----	------

 UCSRA

g) How to specify the character size 5, 6, 8, or 9?

- Use three flags UCSZ2, UCSZ1 and UCSZ0.

RXCIE	TXCIE	UDRIE	RXEN	TXEN	UCSZ2	RXB8	TXB8
-------	-------	-------	------	------	-------	------	------

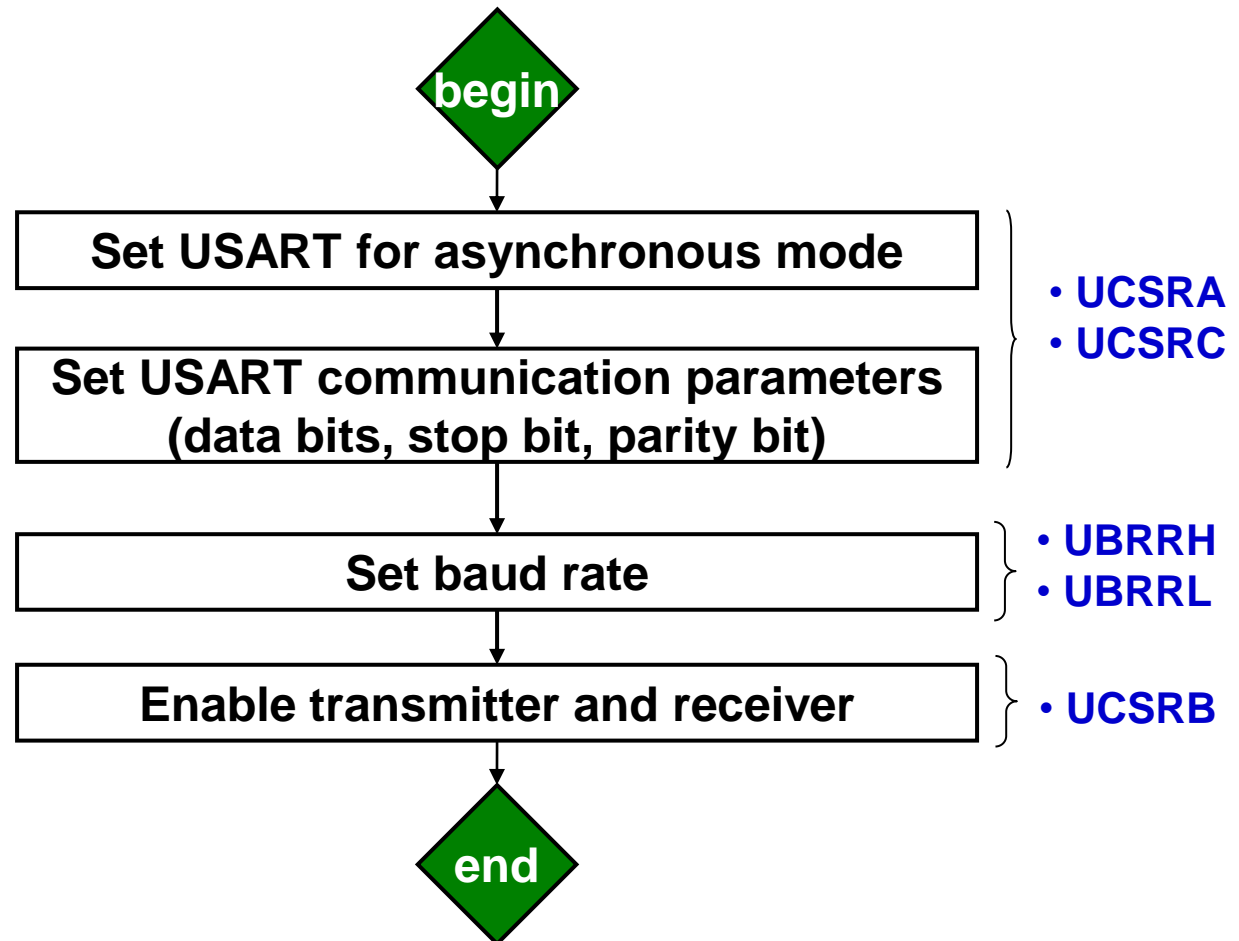
 UCSRB

URSEL	UMSEL	UPM1	UPM0	USBS	UCSZ1	UCSZ0	UCPOL
-------	-------	------	------	------	-------	-------	-------

 UCSRC

Q2 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Initialisation

a) Describe the steps and the relevant registers to initialise the serial port on the ATmega16 for asynchronous serial transmission.



Q2 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Initialisation

b-i) Write C code for asynchronous serial transmission at **baud rate 2400bps**, **8 data bits**, **1 start bit**, **1 stop bit**, **no parity**, system clock 1MHz.

■ Baud rate

□ $UBRR = 1000000 / (16 \times 2400) - 1 = 25_d = 0019_H$.

□ Therefore, $UBRRH = 00_H$ and $UBRRL = 19_H$.

■ Control and status registers (next 3 slides)

□ $UCSRA = 0b0000\ 0000$

□ $UCSRB = 0b0001\ 1000$

□ $UCSRC = 0b1000\ 0110$

■ C code

```
UCRSA = 0b00000000;
```

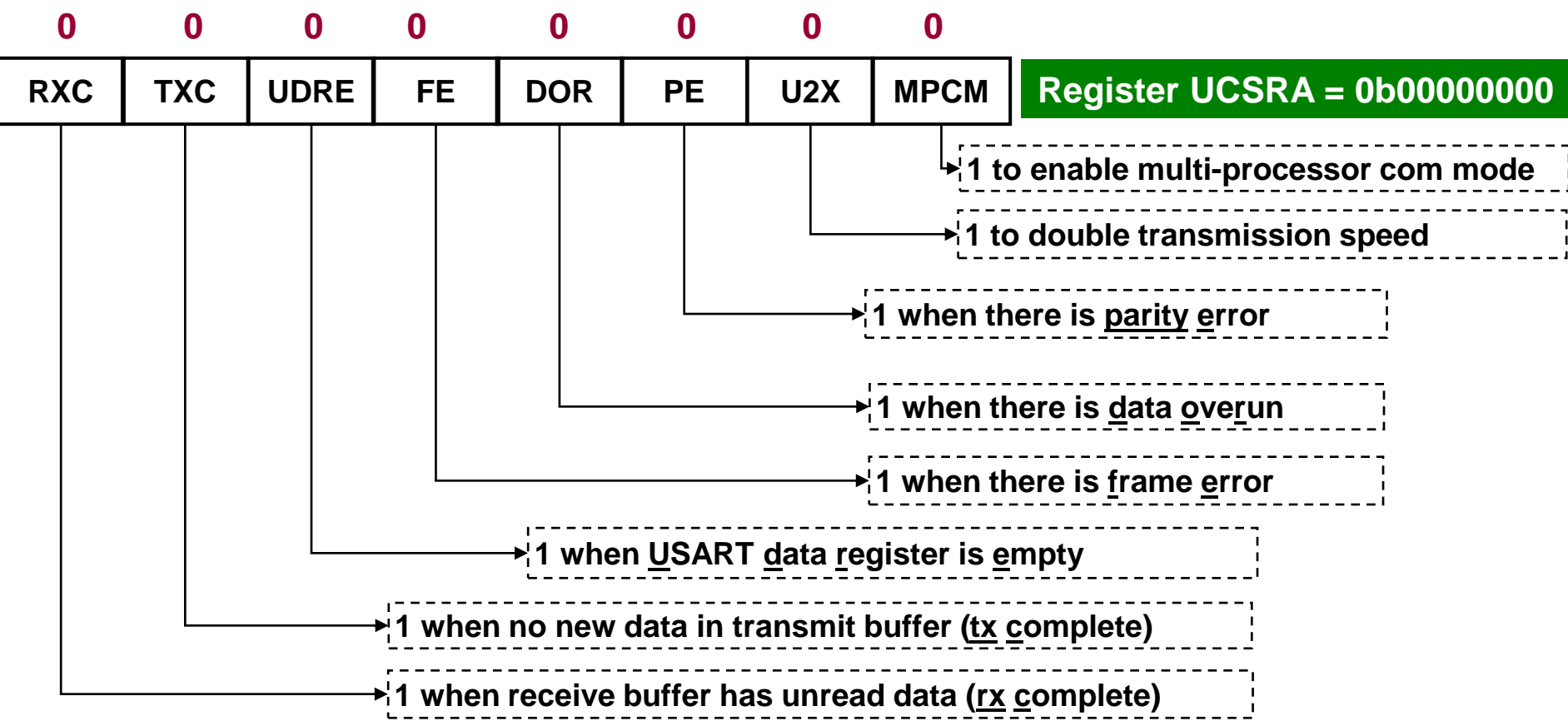
```
UCSRB = 0b00011000;
```

```
UCSRC = 0b10000110;
```

```
UBRRH = 0x00; UBRRL = 0x19;
```

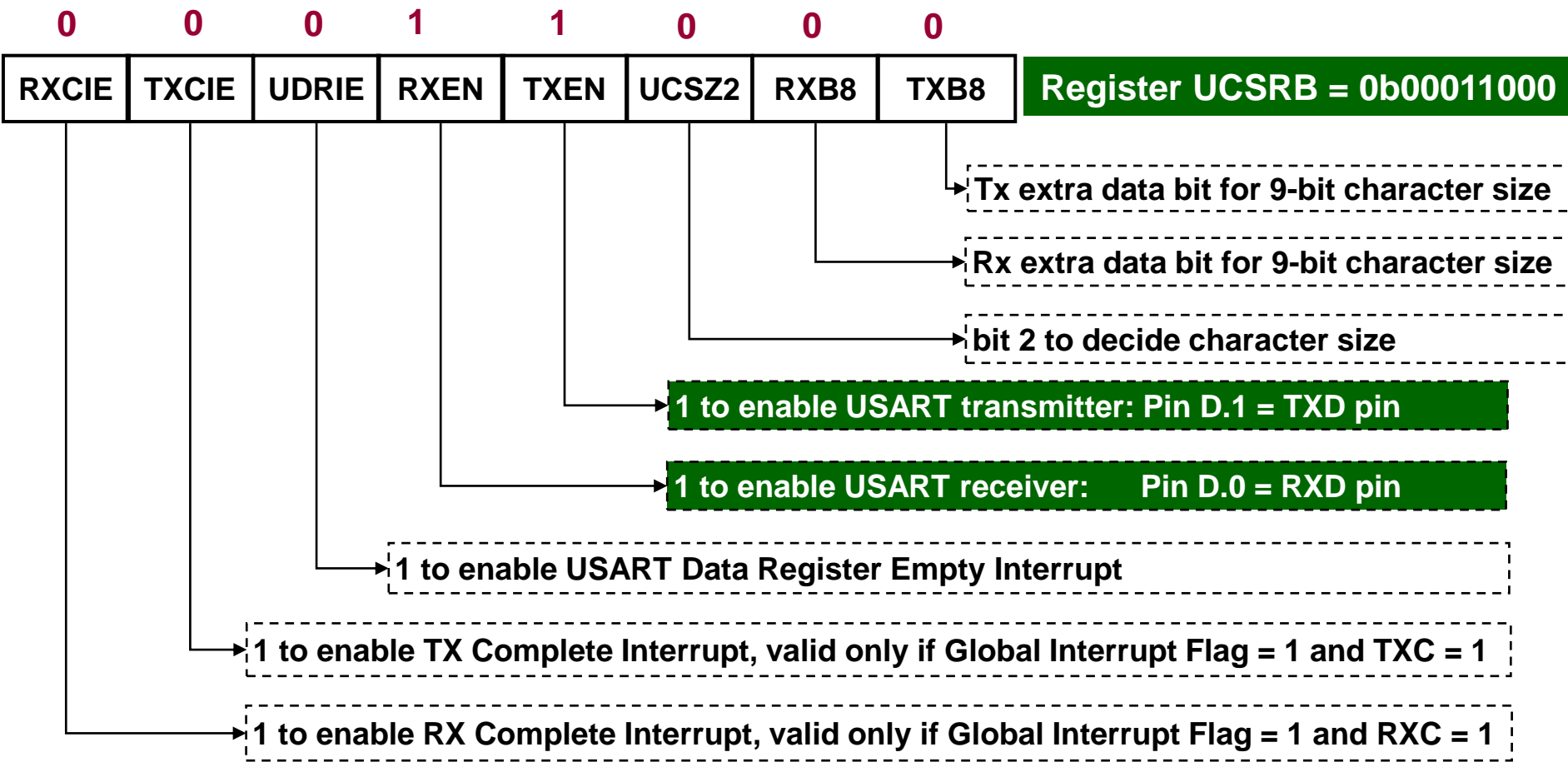

Q2 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Initialisation

b-i) Write C code for asynchronous serial transmission at **baud rate 2400bps**, **8 data bits**, **1 start bit**, **1 stop bit**, **no parity**, system clock 1MHz.



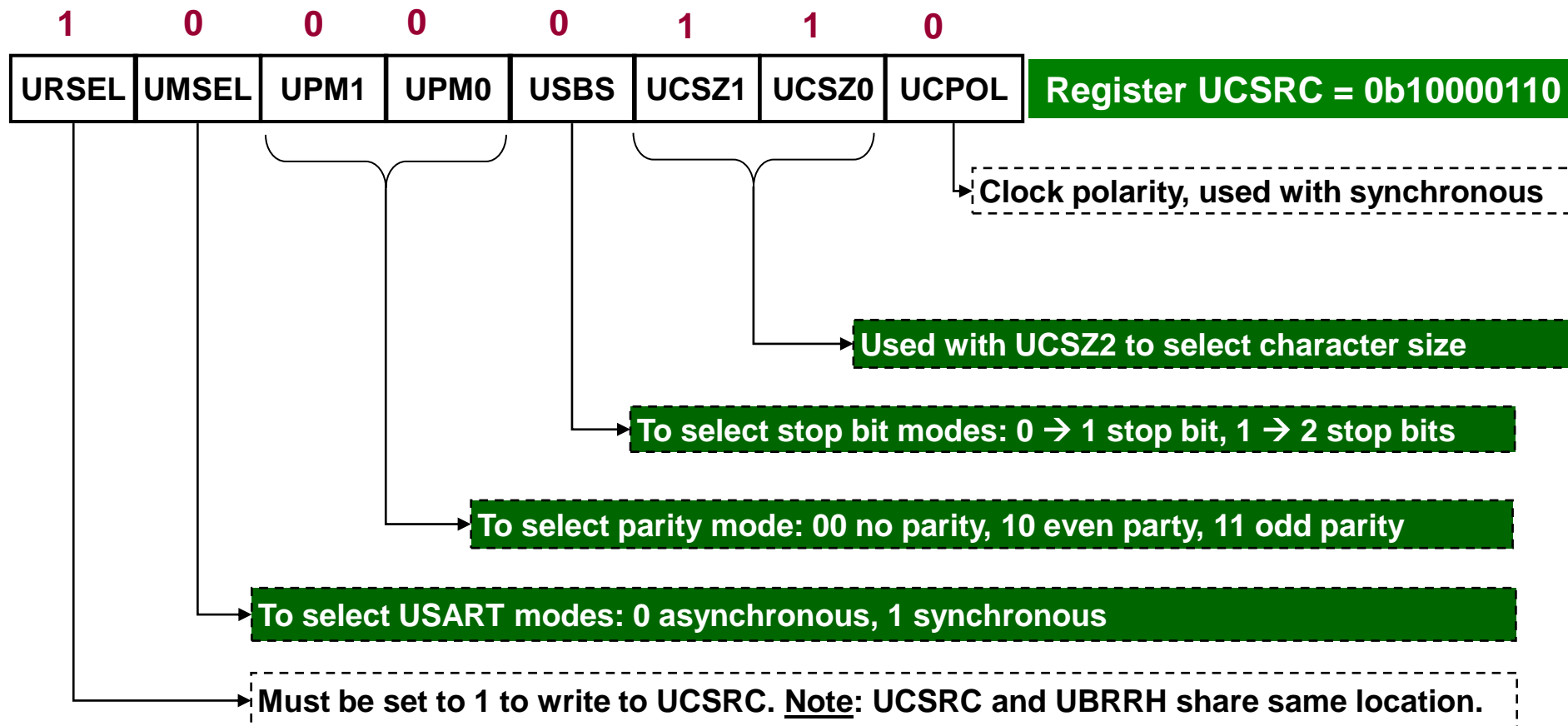
Q2 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Initialisation

b-i) Write C code for asynchronous serial transmission at **baud rate 2400bps**, **8 data bits**, **1 start bit**, **1 stop bit**, **no parity**, system clock 1MHz.



Q2 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Initialisation

b-i) Write C code for asynchronous serial transmission at **baud rate 2400bps**, **8 data bits**, **1 start bit**, **1 stop bit**, **no parity**, system clock 1MHz.



Q2 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Initialisation

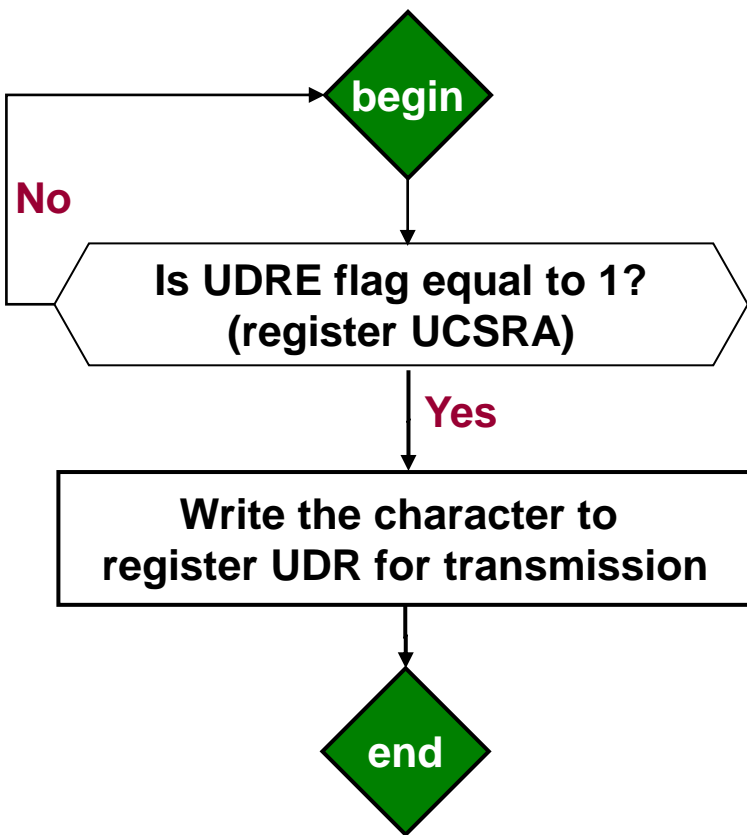
b-ii) Write C code for asynchronous serial transmission at **baud rate 4800bps**, **7 data bits**, **1 start bit**, **2 stop bits**, **even parity**, system clock 4 MHz.

■ C code

```
UCRSA = 0b00000000;  
UCSRB = 0b00011000;  
UCSRC = 0b10101100;  
UBRRH = 0x00; UBRRL = 0x33;
```

Q3 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Sending a character

a) Explain the steps and the registers involved in sending a character through the serial port. Assume that the polling approach is used.



UCSRA	RXC	TXC	UDRE	FE	DOR	PE	U2X	MPCM
mask	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
bit-wise AND	0	0	UDRE	0	0	0	0	0

zero if bit at position UDRE = 0

```
void serial_send(unsigned char data){
    // Wait until UDRE flag = 1
    while ((UCSRA & 0b0010000) == 0x00){;}

    // Write char to UDR for transmission
    UDR = data;
}
```

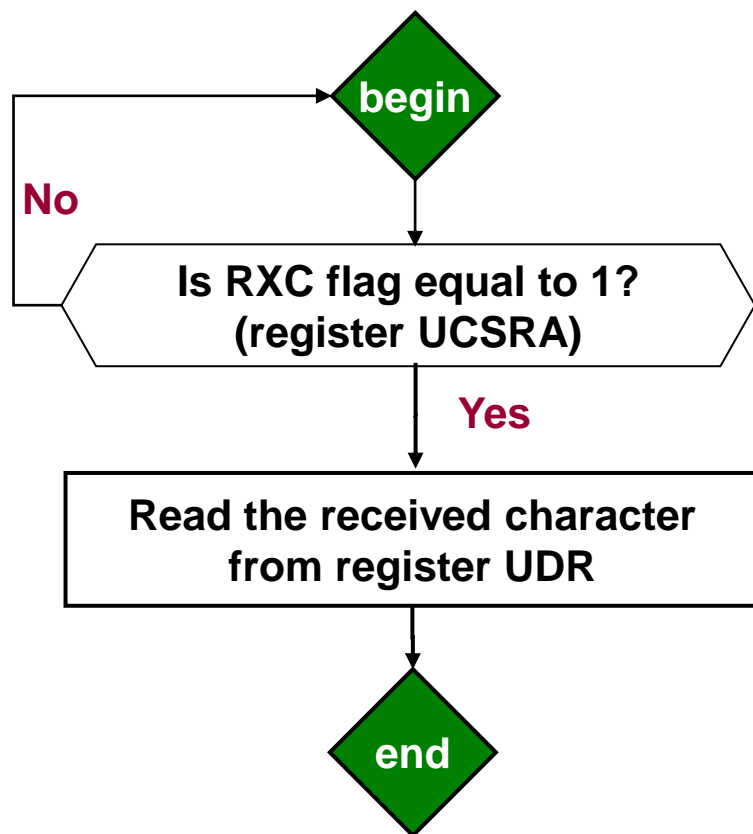
Q3 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Receiving a character

b) Explain the steps and the registers involved in receiving a character through the serial port. Assume that the polling approach is used.

UCSRA	RXC	TXC	UDRE	FE	DOR	PE	U2X	MPCM
mask	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
bit-wise AND	RXC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

zero if bit at position RXC = 0

```
unsigned char serial_receive(void) {  
    // Wait until RXC flag = 1  
    while ((UCSRA & 0b10000000) == 0x00) {;}  
  
    // Read the received char from UDR  
    return (UDR);  
}
```



Q4 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Programming

Write a C program to continually read a character from the serial port of ATmega16 and send the character to PORTA. Use parameters in Q2b-i.

```
#include <avr/io.h>
void serial_init(void){
    UCSRA = 0b00000000; // disable double speed, disable multi-proc
    UCSRB = 0b00011000; // enable Tx and Rx, disable interrupts
    UCSRC = 0b10000110; // asyn mode, no parity, 1 stop bit, 8 data bits
    UBRRH = 0x00; UBRRL = 0x19; // Baud rate 2400bps, assuming 1MHz clock
}
unsigned char serial_receive(void){
    while ((UCSRA & (1<<RXC)) == 0x00){;} // wait until RXC flag = 1
    return (UDR); // read the received character from UDR
}

int main(void) {
    unsigned char i;
    DDRA = 0xFF; // set PORTA for output
    serial_init(); // initialise USART
    while (1) {
        i = serial_receive(); // receive from serial port
        PORTA = i; // send it to port A
    }
    return 0;
}
```

Q5 – Serial communication in ATmega16: Programming

Write a C program to control a pan-tilt camera through the serial port ...

```
#include <avr/io.h>
void delay(void){
    for (int i = 0; i < 1000; i++)
        for (int j = 0; j < 100; j++)
            asm volatile("nop"); // create a relay by repeating NOP instructions
}

void serial_init(void){
    UCSRA = 0b00000010; // double speed, disable multi-proc
    UCSRB = 0b00011000; // Enable Tx and Rx, disable interrupts
    UCSRC = 0b10000110; // Asyn mode, no parity, 1 stop bit, 8 data bits
    UBRRH = 0x00; UBRRL = 12; // Baud rate 9600bps, 1MHz clock, double-speed
}

void serial_send(unsigned char data){
    while ((UCSRA & (1<<UDRE)) == 0x00){;} // wait until UDRE flag = 1
    UDR = data; // Write character to UDR for transmission
}

int main(void) {
    unsigned char i, j;
    unsigned char move_chars[4] = {'4', '6', '8', '2'};
    serial_init(); // initialise USART
    while (1) {
        for (j = 0; j<4; j++)
            for (i = 0; i < 5; i++){ // rotate 5 times
                serial_send(move_chars[j]); // send '4', '6', '8', or '2'
                delay();
            }
    }
    return 0;
}
```

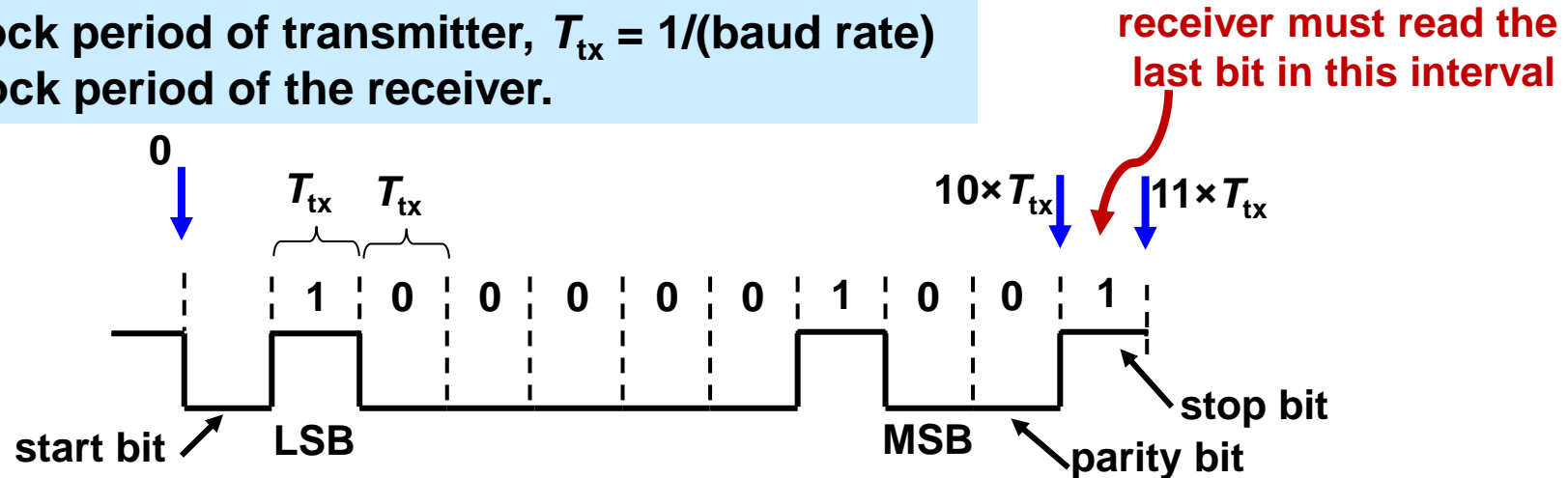

Q6 – Timing in asynchronous serial transmission

- Asynchronous serial transmission uses **8 data bits**, **1 start bit**, **1 stop bit** and **1 parity bit**.
 - Incoming bits are sampled at **the middle of each clock period of the receiver**.
 - Determine the relationship between the clock frequency of receiver & sender to **prevent framing errors**.
-
- **Main idea**: In asynchronous serial transmission, the clock rates of the sender and receiver do not have to be the same.
 - Each character requires 11 bits to send: 8 data + 1 start + 1 stop + 1 parity.
 - The receiver reads the 11th bit to find the end of transmission.
 - If it cannot detect this bit, a **framing error** will occur.
 - Let T_{tx} be the clock period of transmitter, $T_{tx} = 1/(\text{baud rate})$.
 - Let T_{rx} be the clock period of the receiver.

Q6 – Timing in asynchronous serial transmission

T_{tx} : clock period of transmitter, $T_{tx} = 1/(\text{baud rate})$

T_{rx} : clock period of the receiver.



- The transmitter sends the last bit (bit 11th) during: $[10 \times T_{tx}, 11 \times T_{tx}]$.
- The receiver reads the last bit (bit 11th) at time: $10.5 \times T_{rx}$.
- For the last bit to be read correctly, we require:

$$10 \times T_{tx} \leq 10.5 \times T_{rx} \leq 11 \times T_{tx}$$

$$\frac{10}{F_{tx}} \leq \frac{10.5}{F_{rx}} \leq \frac{11}{F_{tx}}$$

$$0.95 \times F_{tx} \leq F_{rx} \leq 1.05 \times F_{tx}$$

Q7 – Asynchronous versus synchronous serial transmission

a) Differentiate synchronous versus asynchronous serial transmission.

■ Synchronous

- ❑ The clocks of the sender and receiver are synchronised.
- ❑ A block of characters, enclosed by synchronising bytes, is sent at a time.
- ❑ Faster transfer and less overhead.
- ❑ Examples: SPI, BISYNC.

■ Asynchronous

- ❑ The clocks of the sender and receiver are not synchronised.
- ❑ One character is sent at a time, enclosed by start bit, stop bits, & parity bit.
- ❑ Example: asynchronous mode of serial port ATmega16.
- ❑ For long messages, asynchronous mode is slow because start/stop bit must be sent for each character.
- ❑ For short, interactive messages, asynchronous mode is suitable.

Q7 – Asynchronous versus synchronous serial transmission

- b) Suppose a file of 10,000 bytes is to be sent over a line at 19600bps.
- Calculate the overhead in bits and seconds for asynchronous mode.
Assume 1 start bit, 1 stop bit, 8 data bits, and no parity bit.
 - Calculate the overhead in bits and seconds for synchronous mode. Data are sent in frames: 1000 characters/frame, and an overhead of 48 bits/frame.

- **Asynchronous:** - Each character has 2 bits of overhead (1 start bit, 1 stop bit).
 - This means an extra of 20,000 bits are sent.
 - This leads to an overhead of $20,000/19,600 = 1.02$ seconds.
- **Synchronous:**
 - 10 frames are required to transmit this file.
 - The control bits are the extra bits: $48 \text{ bits/frame} \times 10 \text{ frames} = 480 \text{ bits}$.
 - The overhead time: 0.0245 seconds.

Extra practice for Lecture 3/Lab 3/Tutorial 2

- Write and test a C program for STK500 board that connects to the PC via serial port at baud rate 2400bps, 8 data bits, 1 start bit, 1 stop bit, no parity bit.
- The program should repeatedly
 - let the user enter two integer values from Hyper Terminal (using scanf).
 - turn ON or OFF the corresponding LED.
- The first integer is LED number, and the second integer is LED status.
For example,
 - if the user enters 2 1, then LED2 will be turned ON.
 - If the user enters 2 0, then LED2 will be turned OFF.